CLAIM LISTING

1.   (Currently Amended) An image processing technique comprising the steps of:

(a) stretching an original image in the Y-direction (vertical) by a factor falling within the range of 2-10% to produce a stretched version of the original image;

selecting a fixation point and disordering the stretched version of the original image centering the disordering operation around the fixation point to form a disordered, stretched version of the original image; and

rotating the disordered, stretched version of the original image through an angle falling within the range 3-9° to form a rotated, disordered and stretched version of the original image;

(b) stretching a copy of the original image in the X-direction (horizontal) by a factor falling within the range of 2-10% to form a second stretched version of the original image; and

selecting an area of the second stretched version of the original image around the selected fixation point; and

(c) merging the selected area of the second stretched version of the original image formed in step (b) with the rotated, disordered and stretched version of the original image formed in step (a).

2.   (Original) A technique as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising an

additional step of fine tuning the boundary between the images formed in steps (a) and (b).

3. (Previously Presented) A technique as claimed in Claim 1 wherein step (a) of the processing technique further includes steps of altering the contrast by a factor falling within the range of 10-40% and/or decreasing the colour saturation of the image by a factor falling within the range 10-40%.

4. (Original) A technique according to Claim 3, further comprising a step of decreasing the brightness by a factor falling within the range 2-40%.

5. (Previously Presented) A technique according to Claim 1, wherein the rotation is undertaken in the clockwise direction.

6. (Previously Presented) A technique according to Claim 1, wherein the disordering operation of step (a) involves disordering the image in line with a self similar fractal disorder pattern.

7. (Previously Presented) A technique according to Claim 1, further comprising, in step (a), identifying at least one boundary or edge of at least one object and introducing a disruption in the degree of disordering at the said boundary or edge.

8. (Previously Presented) A computer programmed to perform the technique

Claim 1 on image data derived from a scanner, a digital camera, or on digital image data obtained or created from other sources including computer programs.

9.   (Canceled)